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Possession

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

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In re:

Chapter 11

**WB BRIDGE HOTEL LLC,**

Case No. 20-23288-rdd

Debtor.

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In re:

Chapter 11

**159 BROADWAY MEMBER LLC,**

Case No. 20-23289-rdd

Debtor.

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**APPLICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 105 OF THE  
BANKRUPTCY CODE AND RULE 1015(b) OF THE FEDERAL RULES OF  
BANKRUPTCY PROCEDURE FOR ORDER DIRECTING JOINT ADMINISTRATION**

TO THE HONORABLE ROBERT D. DRAIN  
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE:

The debtors and debtors in possession WB Bridge Hotel LLC (“WB Bridge”) and 159  
Broadway Member LLC (“159 Broadway”, and defined together with WB Bridge, as the  
“Debtors”), by their proposed attorneys, Robinson Brog Leinwand Greene Genovese & Gluck  
P.C., seek the entry of an order directing the joint administration of their estates for procedural  
purposes pursuant to section 105(a) of title 11 of the United States Code (the “Bankruptcy”

Code”) and Rule 1015(b) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “Bankruptcy Rules”).

### **JURISDICTION, VENUE AND STATUTORY PREDICATE**

1. The Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This matter is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b).

2. This motion has been referred to this Court for consideration pursuant to Section 157 of the Judicial Code and the Standing Order of Reference Regarding Title 11 (S.D.N.Y. Feb 1, 2012) (Preska, C.J.).

3. The statutory predicates for the relief requested herein are section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b)

### **BACKGROUND**

4. On December 21, 2020 (the “Petition Date”), each of the Debtors filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (collectively, the “Chapter 11 Cases”).

5. The Debtors are operating their businesses and managing their properties as debtors-in-possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. As of the filing of this motion, no trustee, examiner or committee has been requested or appointed.

6. 159 Broadway is the 100% owner of the membership interests of WB Bridge. WB Bridge in turn owns the real property and improvements located at 159 Broadway, Brooklyn, New York, (the “Property”). Prior to the filing of the Debtors’ bankruptcy cases, the Debtors were in the process of developing the Property into a 26-story full-service hotel with retail space. Construction commenced in January 2018 and as of the filing of this declaration,

construction is approximately 15% completed.

7. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Debtors were unable to consensually restructure their existing financial obligations. In addition, 159 Broadway's secured lender scheduled a UCC sale of 159 Broadway's membership interests in WB Bridge for December 21, 2020. In order preserve the assets of the Debtors for the benefit of their creditors and their estates, the Debtors commenced these chapter 11 cases prior to the UCC sale.

### **RELIEF REQUESTED**

8. By this Motion, the Debtors seek the joint administration and consolidation of the Chapter 11 Cases for procedural purposes only pursuant to section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b). For the reasons set forth herein, the Debtors believe that, in light of their affiliated status, the joint handling of the administrative matters respecting these cases – including, without limitation, the use of a single docket for matters occurring in the administration of the estates and the combining of notices to creditors – will aid in expediting the Chapter 11 Cases and rendering their administration more efficient and economical.

9. The Debtors seek the entry of an order directing the joint administration for procedural purposes only pursuant to section 105 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 1015. A proposed order is annexed hereto.

10. Bankruptcy Rule 1015 provides that:

(b) Cases Involving Two or More Related Debtors. If . . . two or more petitions are pending in the same court by or against . . . a debtor and an affiliate, the court may order a joint administration of the estates. Prior to entering an order the court shall give consideration to protecting creditors of different estates against potential conflicts of interest. . . .

Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1015(b).

11. Section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code provides, in pertinent part, that “the court may issue any order, process, or judgment that is necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this title.” 11 U.S.C. §105(a).

12. The Debtors are “affiliates” as 159 Broadway is the 100% owner of WB Bridge, with WB Bridge essentially acting as a holding company, while WB Bridge owns and operates the Property. Accordingly, this Court is authorized to grant the requested relief. The Debtors believe that joint administration of these Chapter 11 cases would be practical, expedient, economical and less time-consuming for the Debtors, their management and professionals, the Court, the Clerk’s office and all parties in interest. Joint administration will avoid the preparation, replication, service, and filing, as applicable, of duplicative notices, applications, and orders in each of the debtor cases, thereby saving the Debtors’ estates considerable expense and resources.

13. The Debtors believe that the majority of the applications, hearings and orders to be made, held and entered in these cases will affect both Debtors. Accordingly, the Debtors believe that the burdens on the Clerk and the Court would be substantially increased if separate dockets were maintained for each of the Debtors. Without an order directing joint administration, originals of virtually every pleading, motion, application, notice and order would have to be duplicated and filed and served in both of the Debtors’ cases.

14. Accordingly, joint administration and procedural consolidation will facilitate the efficient and economical administration of these cases, promote the interests and convenience of

the parties and reduce costs and expedite administration. Further, supervision of the administrative aspects of these cases by the United States Trustee will be simplified.

15. The Debtors believe that no party in interest will be prejudiced by the relief requested in this motion. The rights of creditors will not be adversely affected because the relief requested is purely procedural and is not intended to affect the substantive rights of any party. In fact, the rights of all creditors will be enhanced by the reduced costs that will result from the joint administration of these Chapter 11 Cases. The Court will also be relieved of the burden of entering duplicative orders and maintaining redundant files.

16. Each creditor will still be required to file a claim against the particular debtor or estate, or Debtors or estates, allegedly responsible for such debt.

17. Accordingly, the Debtors respectfully request that the Court modify the caption of their cases to reflect the joint administration of these chapter 11 cases, as follows:

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

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Chapter 11

In re:

**WB BRIDGE HOTEL LLC and  
159 BROADWAY MEMBER LLC,**

Case No.: 20-23288-rdd and  
20-23289-rdd  
(Jointly Administered)

Debtors.

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18. The Debtors respectfully request that the docket of the jointly administered cases be maintained under the case number assigned to WB Bridge Hotel LLC, Case No. 20-23288-rdd. The Debtors also seek the Court's direction that a notation substantially similar to the

following notation be entered on the docket sheet in the case of 159 Broadway Member LLC,  
Case No. 20-23289:

An order has been entered in this case, directing the  
joint administration of this case with the case of  
WB Bridge Hotel LLC, Case No. 20-23288-rdd.

19. Finally, the Debtors seek authority to file the monthly operating reports required by the U.S. Trustee Operating Guidelines on a consolidated basis, provided that separate allocations of disbursements will be made for each debtor. Consolidated monthly operating reports will further administrative economy and efficiency without prejudice to any party in interest.

#### **NOTICE**

20. Notice of this motion has been given to the United States Trustee. The Debtors believe that such notice is sufficient under the circumstances and that no further notice need be given to any party.

#### **CONCLUSION**

20. For the reasons stated above, the Debtors request that these bankruptcy cases be jointly administered.

21. No prior request for this relief has been made to this or any other court.

WHEREFORE, the Debtors seek the entry of an order: (i) directing the joint administration of their estates pursuant to section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b); and (ii) granting to the Debtors such other and further relief as is just and appropriate.

Dated: New York, New York  
December 30, 202

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